ANNOUNCEMENT RE. DEWAN'S ADDRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Before the Legislative business is taken up, honourable members may have noticed that acting under the provisions of section 6 (3) of the Travancore Legislative Reforms Regulation the Dewan will address the Assembly at 2-30 today. If the legislative business is finished before half-past one, the House will adjourn and meet at half-past two. If on the other hand the legislative business takes us further, the House will adjourn at half-past two and then the address of the Dewan will take place and then the motion for adjournment of the House.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

The Travancore Credit Bank Bill—(contd.)

Clause 40.

PRESIDENT: We have come to clause 40.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha cum Shertala*): Sir, I beg to move the following amendment.

After sub-clause (*I*) (*a*), *add the following Proviso*:

"*Provided that the rate of interest chargeable on the amounts so advanced or lent shall not in any case exceed the highest rate of interest paid on any debenture issued by the board by one and a half* (1½) *per cent.*"

Sir, with the permission of the Chair I would substitute 2 per cent. for 1½ per cent.

PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: The object of this amendment is to take a statutory provision in the matter of regulating the rate of interest chargeable on the advances made or the loans issued by the Bank intstead of leaving the matter entirely to the discretion of the Board of Directors. The defects or evils pointed out yesterday by the honourable the Law Member in the course of the discussion on other motions under the same Clause regarding the fixing of 4% as the rate of interest can be cured by the acceptance of this amendment. At the same time there will be statutory provision for regulating the rate of interest also. Sir, I am definitely of the opinion that in any event the working charges of the Bank will not exceed one or 1½ per cent. since the volume of transactions will be very large, and so I would commend my amendment for the unanimous acceptance of this House.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: I second it.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Law Member to Government*): Sir, I oppose this amendment. I must concede that this is certainly a more logical one than the amendment moved yesterday, but at the same time I regret that statutory obligation like this cannot be accepted. The rate of interest that the Bank may charge upon loans issued by it

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